

THURSDAY, APRIL 7TH

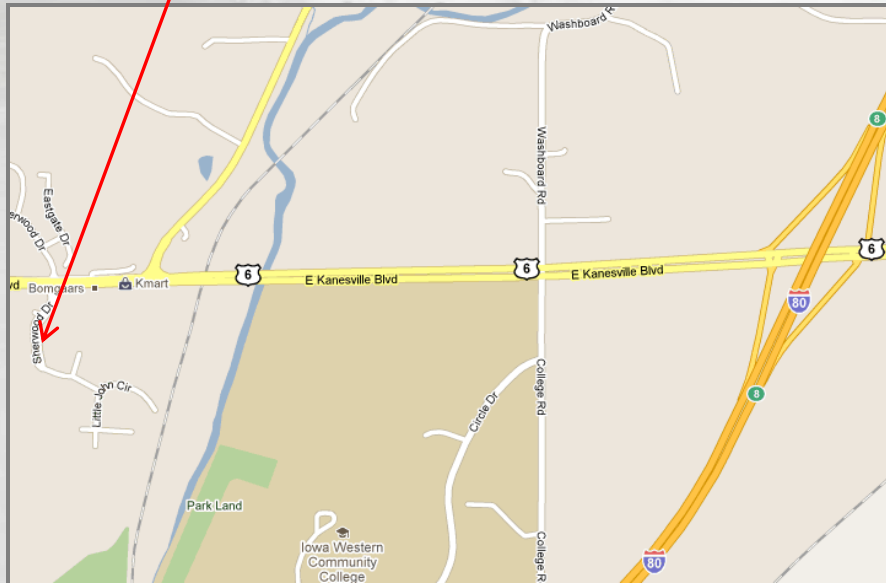
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IOWA NATIONAL GUARD

2415 EAST KANESVILLE BLVD

(Turn south off Kanesville onto Sherwood Dr)

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA



Establishing vertical reference points

Missouri River at Council Bluffs, IA - March, 2010

For more information
contact:

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STREAM GAGING NETWORK STAKEHOLDERS MEETING APRIL 7, 2011



Missouri River - June, 2010

U.S. Geological Survey
Iowa Water Science Center

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<http://ia.water.usgs.gov>



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The Nation's water resources – our river, lakes, and aquifers – are vital to the long-term health of our citizens and the stability of our economy.

These resources:

- supply our drinking water,
- support our industries,
- transport our products, and
- provide us with recreational opportunities.

Management of these resources is a complex task involving all levels of government and a multitude of laws, regulations and competing interests. Information on the flow of rivers is a vital national asset that safeguards lives, protects property, and ensures adequate water supplies for the future.

For over 125 years, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has been providing information needed by water-resources managers and today operates over 7,000 stream gages nationwide.

In support of water management activities for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) mainstem and tributary reservoirs, the Corps partners with the USGS to operate and maintain a network of stream gages. In the Missouri River basin alone, there are currently over 230 stream gages partially or fully funded by the Corps

Over the past several years, Corps of Engineers and USGS funding for the Streamgaging program in the Missouri River basin has been relatively flat, and potential budget cuts in future years could result in the discontinuation of service to stream gages that are used not only by the Corps and USGS, but other agencies such as the National Weather Service, Department of Transportation, natural resources agencies, emergency management agencies, and water intake owners such as municipal water supply, and power plants.

These funding reductions have resulted in the discontinuation of service of several stream gages, with further reductions likely if funding continues to be reduced. Impacts of discontinuation of stream gages include:

- reduced ability to determine flooding areas and impacts,
- less accurate forecasts of reservoir inflows,
- less accurate forecasts needed to meet downstream flow targets,
- loss of long-term flow records which results in less accurate information for environmental assessments and flood reduction designs
- loss of vital information needed to meet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulatory requirements.

The Corps has been actively working with the USGS to identify private sector cooperators. The Corps or the USGS may be in contact with your office to discuss the Program and opportunities to participate as a cooperator in the program.

Join us on April 7th to learn more about the Co-op Program, and the work done with the Corps and other supporting cooperators. This will be an opportunity for you to ask questions, see equipment and better understand how vital stream-gaging information is useful, not only to technical personnel and projects, but for recreation activities as well.

Please try to attend

(location info on reverse)